



NEWS

State of Delaware
Department of Finance
Division of Revenue
www.state.de.us/revenue

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TOP DELINQUENT DELAWARE TAXPAYERS TO BE LISTED ONLINE

Statewide – February 5, 2007 – If you're not paying your Delaware taxes, look out. As of today the Delaware Division of Revenue will begin posting on their website the names and addresses of the state's top 100 delinquent individual and business taxpayers.

Implementing House Bill 118, which was enacted in July 2006, Revenue will maintain two separate lists on their new Delaware Delinquent Taxpayer internet page: www.state.de.us/revenue/ddt.shtml.

One list will consist of the names and addresses of those who owe personal tax liabilities and a second list will consist of the names and addresses of those who owe outstanding Delaware business tax liabilities. Each list will be limited to the top 100 taxpayers with the largest outstanding balances and posted quarterly. Balances under \$1,000 will not be posted.

As Division of Revenue Director Patrick Carter points out, the information presented on the Delaware Delinquent Taxpayer page is of Public Record consolidated in one location.

"Only the names of taxpayers who have already received a judgment will be posted," says Carter. "The taxpayer is first notified by mail that because of a tax judgment their name may appear on the Delaware Delinquent Taxpayers site. They're then given 60 days to respond."

Taxpayers who enter into a payment agreement with the Division of Revenue before the list has been published will not be listed. Any taxpayer who enters into a payment agreement after the list has been published will be removed from the list. In addition, taxpayers who have filed for bankruptcy protection or have incurred a liability that is being appealed will be excluded from the published list until their case has been resolved.

Personal addresses can also be removed upon request.

"We're not trying to punish people," says Carter. "We're trying to provide another means for the State to collect revenues that are owed by encouraging delinquent taxpayers to pay their overdue tax bills or to renew with us any outdated collection agreements."

If a taxpayer enters into a payment agreement and removed from the list, the only way they will go back on is if they issue a bad check or fail to meet the terms of any payment agreement.

"We'll work with taxpayers as much as possible to make sure their name isn't posted on our site and, if it is, to provide a fair means for its removal," says Carter. "We just ask that if you get a letter, contact us. It may save a lot of embarrassment down the road."

Delaware is one of at least 22 states and the District of Columbia to publish delinquent taxpayers online.

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